

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) An Identity Generator device (6) arranged for generating a user's service indicator (USI) for a user to access a number of services offered by a service provider (1; 2; 3) through a network operator where user data (4) for the user are accessible, this user's service indicator being usable between the service provider (~~SP-1; SP-2; SP-N~~) domain and the network operator (NDP) domain to unambiguously identify the user at each respective domain, the Identity Generator device comprising characterized in that it comprises:

- means for obtaining a master user's identifier (UID) usable to identify the user at the operator's network;
- means for obtaining a service identifier (SID), indicative of services to be accessed at the service provider; and
- means (F) for constructing a user's service indicator (USI) that includes the master user's identifier (UID) and the service identifier (SID).

2. (Currently Amended) The Identity Generator device of claim 1, wherein the service identifier (SID), indicative of services to be accessed at the service provider, comprises at least one element selected from: a service provider indicator (SPI), and a number of service indicators (S1I; SMI).

3. (Currently Amended) The Identity Generator device of claim 1, further comprising:

- means for obtaining at least one element selected from: network operator identifier (OID), auxiliary value (Salt), expiry time, and integrity code; and
- means for including the at least one element into the user's service indicator (USI).

4. (Currently Amended) The Identity Generator device of claim 1, wherein the master user's identifier (UID) is built up as a function (SHA-1) of a real user identity (MSISDN).

5. (Currently Amended) The Identity Generator device of claim 1 any preceding claim, further comprising means for carrying out a symmetric cipher of the user's service indicator using a ciphering key (KE).

6. (Currently Amended) The Identity Generator device of claim 5, wherein the ciphering key (KE) is unique for all the applicable service providers (1; 2; 3).

7. (Currently Amended) The Identity Generator device of claim 5, wherein the ciphering key (KE) is different per each service provider (1; 2; 3).

8. (Currently Amended) The Identity Generator device of claim 1 any preceding claim, further comprising a Decomposer component (7) having means for carrying out a reverse generation (F-1) to obtain a master user's identifier (UID) from a given user's service indicator (USI).

9. (Currently Amended) A Decomposer component (7) having means for carrying out a reverse generation (F-1) to obtain a master user's identifier (UID) from a given user's service indicator (USI), the Decomposer component (7) arranged for integration in, or co-operation with, at least one entity selected from: the Identity Generator device (6) and other entities at the identity provider domain or at the service provider domain.

10. (Currently Amended) The Decomposer component of claim 9, wherein the means for carrying out a reverse generation (F-1) includes means for

obtaining the service identifier (**SI**) used to generate the given user's service indicator (**USI**).

11. (Currently Amended) The Decomposer component of claim 9, wherein the means for carrying out a reverse generation further comprises (F-1) may further include

means for obtaining at least one element selected from: network operator identifier (**OID**), and ciphering key (**KE**) used to generate the given user's service indicator (**USI**).

12. (Currently Amended) The Decomposer component of claim 9, wherein the means for carrying out a reverse generation further comprises (F-1) may further include:

- means for obtaining applicable expiry time criteria ; and
- means for verifying the validity of a given temporary user's service indicator (**TSI**) against said expiry time criteria.

13. (Currently Amended) The Decomposer component of claim 9, further comprising means for verifying the validity of a given user's service indicator (**USI**) by making use of the master user's identifier (**UID**) as a search key towards a user directory system (**4**).

14. (Currently Amended) A method for generating a user's service indicator (**USI**) intended for a user (**5**) to access a number of services offered by a service provider(**1; 2; 3**) through a network operator where user data (**4**) for the user are accessible, this user's service indicator being usable between the service provider (**SP-1; SP-2; SP-N**) domain and the network operator (**NOP**) domain to unambiguously identify the user at each respective domain, the method characterized by comprising the steps of:

—a step of obtaining a master user's identifier(**UHD**) usable to identify the user (**5**) at the operator's network;

–a step of obtaining a service identifier (~~SID~~), indicative of services to be accessed at the service provider; and

–a step of constructing a user's service indicator that includes the master user's identifier and the service identifier.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14, wherein the step of obtaining a service identifier includes ~~a step of~~ obtaining at least one element selected from: a service provider indicator (~~SPI~~), and a number of service indicators (~~S1I ; SMI~~).

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14, further comprising:

–a step of obtaining at least one element selected from: network operator identifier (~~OID~~), auxiliary value (~~Salt~~), expiry time, and integrity code ; and

–a step of including the at least one element into the user's service indicator (~~USI~~).

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14, wherein the step of obtaining a master user's identifier includes a step of applying a function (~~SHA-1~~) to a real user identity (~~MSISDN~~).

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14, further comprising a step of carrying out a symmetric cipher of the user's service indicator using a ciphering key (~~KE~~).

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein the ciphering key (~~KE~~) is unique for all the applicable service providers.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein the ciphering key (~~KE~~) is different per each service provider.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20, further comprising a step of determining a service provider issuing a communication based on a given user's service indicator.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14 any preceding claim, further comprising a step of carrying out a reverse generation (F-1) to obtain the master user's identifier (UID) from a given user's service indicator (USI).

23. (Currently Amended) An Identity Generator device for generating a user's service indicator for a user to access a number of services offered by a service provider through a network operator where user data for the user are accessible, this user's service indicator being usable between the service provider domain and the network operator domain to unambiguously identify the user at each respective domain, the Identity Generator device comprising:

means for obtaining a master user's identifier usable to identify the user at the operator's network;

means for obtaining a service identifier, indicative of services to be accessed at the service provider; and

means for constructing a user's service indicator that includes the master user's identifier and the service identifier, wherein said Identity Generator device is integrated in, or in close cooperation with, and entity of an identity provider network.

A use of the Identity Generator device (6) of claim 1 integrated in, or in close co-operation with, an entity of an identity provider (IDP) network.

24. (Currently Amended) The Identity Generator device use of claim 23, wherein the identity provider (IDP) network is an operator's network where the user data are accessible.

25. (Currently Amended) The Identity Generator device use of claim 24, wherein the entity is a Central Provisioning Entity responsible for provisioning tasks in the operator's network.

26. (Currently Amended) The Identity Generator device use of claim 24, wherein the entity is a User Directory System (4) storing user data.

27. (Currently Amended) The Identity Generator device use of claim 24, wherein the entity is a Border Gateway placed at the border of the operator domain.

28. (Currently Amended) The Identity Generator device use of claim 27, wherein the Border Gateway is an entity selected from: an HTTP Proxy, a WAP Gateway, and a Messaging Gateway.

29. (Canceled)